



*Second Sunday of Lent  
27th / 28th February 2021*

**Parish Clergy**

Fr Martin Cruickshank

**Parish Office**

Gemma Whitehead—Monday

Fran Kernaghan—Wednesday, Friday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

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**Mass Times**

**SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm**

**SUNDAY: 9.30 am**

**WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week**

**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30am**

**RECONCILIATION**

**SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM**

**BAPTISMS—By appointment.**

**Preparation Course: 0411 883 661**



Trust in the Lord is the theme that links all this week's readings. As we continue our Lenten journey, we are reminded of the extent of the Lord's love and generosity – if we but listen to his voice and place our trust in him.

In the **First Reading** we see the depth of Abraham's trust in God as he is asked to sacrifice his beloved son. Abraham's faithfulness is rewarded with more blessings than he could ever have imagined.

The **Psalms** give thanks and praise to the Lord who has freed him, reminding us that he trusted God even when sorely afflicted. Like him, we can rejoice as we walk in the presence of the Lord.

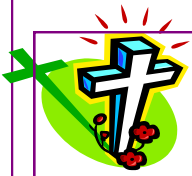
In the **Second Reading**, echoing the story of Abraham and Isaac, St Paul challenges us to recall the enormity of God's love for the world in giving up his Son. With Jesus standing at the right hand of God pleading for us, we can have confidence in placing all our trust in him.

In the **Gospel**, Jesus asks Peter, James and John to trust him and not speak of the wonder of what they have witnessed on the mountain top.

This week we pray for the grace to trust and to listen ever more closely to the voice of the Lord, so that we too might walk in his presence.



# Parish Community



*We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:*

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Bert Gogoll, Myles Borg, Brian Rolfe, Frank Dunn, Harry Struck, Mark Harrington, Kath Duck.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Philip Rolfe, John Mills, Arnold Fletcher, Billy Clarke, Robert McIntosh, Ken Ovington, Megan O'Donoghue, Geoff Frauenfelder, Pat Hagan, Grahame Ledwidge, Arnold Russel, Marie Mulligan, Jessie Klippel, Alan Boswell, Philippa Hailey, Denis Maloney, Henry Carter, Thelma Conroy, Esther Smith, Nancy Flynn, May Jones, Kevin Gordon, Vic Dolenc, George McArdle, Tim Robb, Dave Murray, Bridget King, Adelaide Pite.

*Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.*

## Prayer for the Sick

*We pray for all those who are sick. May they draw strength and healing from God's presence with them and from our prayers and thoughts for them. May they have peace in their hearts and know they are greatly loved by all. We offer our prayers believing that God's presence and power can do more than we can ever know. Amen*

## ROSTERS

### Sat / Sun: 27th / 28th February

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b> <b>Lector 1</b> <b>Lector 2</b>	Colleen Day Kellie Gordes Jasmine Gordes	Richard Parkinson Mercedes Goss Ann McIntyre
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Pauline Mulquiney	Carey Menz-Dowling
<b>Cantor Musicians</b>	Catherine Cutler and David Hicks Val Hayes	Bernadette O'Donnell Wendy McFerran

**Counters: Gordon Bryant & Laurie Moylan (Monday) Group 3**

### Sat / Sun: 6th / 7th March

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b> <b>Lector 1</b> <b>Lector 2</b>	Adrian Mitchelhill Sr Carina Morton Paula Waters	Margy Brown Lorraine Willis Sr Patricia Weekes
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Michael Regan	Moira Porta
<b>Cantor Musicians</b>	Brian Waters Judy Foley	Ann & Lachlan McIntyre Val Hayes

**Counters: Noelene Cruise & Jane Togher (Monday) Group 4**

## Project Compassion Prayer

**God of all peoples and nations, as you accompany us on our Lenten journey.**

**May our fasting strengthen our commitment to live in solidarity, our almsgiving be an act of justice and our prayers anchor us in love and compassion.**

**Through living simply and loving generously, may we care for our global family and our common home, as we "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." \* We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**(\*Saint Oscar Romero)**



*This weekend we welcome into the community of the Christian church through the sacrament of Baptism: **Fergus & Vivian***

**Fitzgerald** children of Adam & Bethany; **Rory Unwin** son of John & Melissa.

## Thought for the Week ( Pope Francis):

"In Lent, may we be increasingly concerned with "speaking words of comfort, strength, consolation and encouragement, and not words that demean, sadden, anger or show scorn"

# Parish News

## World Day of Prayer 2021

This Prayer Day is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women throughout the world who welcome us all to join in prayer and action.

The prayer service this year is prepared by the Christian women of the Republic of Vanuata.

The local service this year will be held in Sacred Heart Church Mate Street North Albury this Friday 5 March at 10.30am. This will be followed by morning tea. BYO plate to share. All welcome.

## UPDATED COVID-19 DIOCESAN PROTOCOLS

**If you are feeling unwell, have a cough or cold, sore throat or flu like symptoms please do not attend our physical gatherings as this puts others as well as yourself at risk.**

After having your name registered or ticked off please use the hand sanitiser located at the four entrance points of the church at the beginning of our liturgical celebration and as you leave the church building.

Communion will begin with those on the car park side and then move to those seated on the Swan Street side. Please allow space between each recipient.

*If the people attending a religious service will be singing in an indoor area then a max capacity of one person per 4 square metre rule applies and everyone attending the service must wear a face mask during the singing.*

**Therefore, until this regulation changes we will not engage in congregational singing.**

*However, up to 30 people may participate in an indoor choir in accordance with social distancing protocols.*

## Lenten Discussion Groups

This year we will be using *It's All About Hope* a modern Lenten program that takes us through the six weeks of Lent.

This year, author Chris Monaghan explores the theme of 'Hope', using prayer, a careful selection of readings, reflection and his own stunning personal photography.

Groups meet each Tuesday and Thursday at 7.00pm in Sacred Heart Hall. All welcome to participate and attend as you are able.

## Project Compassion 2021

***Aspire not to have more, but to be more***

*Oscar Romero*

Margaret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands that suffered long-term water shortages and damage from Tropical Cyclone Harold. With the support of Caritas, Margaret's school installed water tanks, repaired cyclone damage and implemented COVID-19 prevention measures, and is now planning to boost food security.

Project Compassion brochures, boxes and envelopes are available at all church entrances. Please donate as generously as is possible.

## Council of Priests

Under the stewardship of Bishop Mark Edwards the Council of Priests has been re-established.

Initially, one priest from each deanery was chosen by vote from those priests resident in that deanery.

Peter Murphy (Murray); Henry Ibe (Murrumbidgee); Reece Beltrame (Wagga) were elected.

Then a priest from each of the given age groups in years of ordination was chosen. All priests of diocese were eligible to vote in this category.

Paddy Sykes, Rick Micallef and Brad Rafter were elected.

The Council of Priests including its ex-officio members: Bishop Mark Edwards, Fr Kevin O'Reilly (Chancellor), Fr Joel Wallace (Vicar General) and elected members: Fr Peter Murphy, Fr Reece Beltrame, Fr Henry Ibe, Fr Paddy Sykes, Fr Rick Micallef, Fr Brad Rafter also at the Bishop's instruction constitute the Diocesan College of Consultors to assist him with the governance of the diocese.

## Heartbeat

It is intended to produce an Easter edition of our parish journal. All articles, photos and reports need to be sent to Karen Purtle by the 14th March. Karen's email is: [bevispurtle@internode.on.net](mailto:bevispurtle@internode.on.net)

## Australian Catholics—Autumn Edition

Between the death and resurrection of Jesus, there was a time of waiting. The 'waiting place' is familiar to most of us. There are times in our lives when we experience great upheaval. We know that our lives have been changed, but while there may be some uncertainty it is also a time of hope and creativity. For some in our society, the waiting place is far more indefinite. Here, two, hope and creativity are required in order to find a way forward, to bring justice and reconciliation with those who have been excluded. In this edition, some time is spent lingering in the Holy Saturday space—between what has been and what might yet be. Some excellent articles for reflection, thought and discussion including that of Michael McGirr on the journey of those diagnosed with dementia, their families and carers (P42).

Please take and distribute your free copies.

## Parish Pastoral Council

The first meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council for 2021 will take place this Thursday 4 March at 6.00pm in the Presbytery. If members are unable to be physically present and wish to participate via zoom please contact the parish office. Please refer all General Business to be discussed either to the parish office or the Council Secretary Karen Purtle: [bevispurtle@internode.on.net](mailto:bevispurtle@internode.on.net)

## March Morning Tea

It is intended to resume our monthly morning tea after the celebration of Eucharist on a Sunday morning.

For next Sunday 7 March please if possible bring something to share. All welcome.



# Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading - Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.' The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm 116:10, 15-19

*Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living*

I trusted, even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted.'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
Is the death of his faithful. **R**

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I:  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name. **R**

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil.  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
In your midst, O Jerusalem. **R**

## A reading from the letter to the Romans 8: 31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The word of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him..  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 9: 2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves.

There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi', he said, 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean. The Gospel of the Lord